JOHN A. BOEHNER, OHIO, CHAIRMAN

THOMAS E. PETRI, WISCONSIN, VICE CHAIRMAN HOWARD P. "BUCK" MCKEON, CALIFORNIA MICHAEL P. CASTLE, DELAWARE SAM JOHNSON, TEXAS MARKE, SOUDER, INDIANA CHARLIE NORWOOD, GEORGIA VERNON J. EHLERS, MICHIGAN JUDY BIGGERT, ILLINOIS TODD RUSSELL PLATTS, PENNSYLVANIA PATRICK J. TIBERI, OHLD ICKELLER, FLORIDA TOM OSBORNE, NEBRASKA JOE WILSON, SOUTH CAROLINA JON C. PORTER, NEVADA JOHN KLINE, MINNESOTA MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE, COLORADO BOB INGLIS, SOUTH CAROLINA CATHY MCMORRIS, WASHINGTON KENNY MARCHANT, TEXAS TOM PRICE, GEORGIA LUIS G. FORTUÑO, PUERTO RICO BOBBY JINDAL, LOUISIANA CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR., LOUISIANA VIRGINIA FOXX, NORTH CAROLINA THELMA D. DRAKE, VIRGINIA JONN R. "RANDY" KUHL, JR., NEW YORK



COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2181 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515–6100

May 26, 2005

MINORITY MEMBERS:

GEORGE MILLER, CALIFORNIA, SENIOR

DALE E. KILDEE, MICHIGAN
MAJOR R. OWENS, NEW YORK
DONALD M. PAYNE, NEW JERSEY
ROBERT E. ANDREWS, NEW JERSEY
ROBERT E. SCOTT, VIRGINIA
LYNN C. WOOLSEY, CALIFORNIA
RUBÉN HINOJOSA, TEXAS
CAROLYN McCARTHY, NEW YORK
JOHN F. TIERNEY, MASSACHUSETTS
RON KIND, WISCONSIN
DENNIS J. KUCINICH, OHIO
DAVID WU, OREGON
RUSH D. HOLT, NEW JERSEY
SUSAN A. DAVIS, CALIFORNIA
BETTY MCCOLLUM, MINNESOTA
DANNY K. DAVIS, ILLINOIS
RAÜL M. GRIJALVA, ARIZONA
CHRIS VAN HOLLEN, MARYLAND
TIM RYAN, OHIO
TIMOTHY H. BISHOP, NEW YORK
JOHN BARROW, GEORGIA

MAJORITY—(202) 225-4527 (TTY)—(202) 226-3372 MINORITY—(202) 226-3725 (TTY)—(202) 226-3116

Mr. Bradley D. Belt Executive Director Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation 1200 K Street N.W Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Belt:

Over the past several months, my staff has requested from your office — on my behalf — information regarding the financial effect of the Bush Administration's pension reform proposal. To date I have not received such information, and I am disappointed in the lack of cooperation in this matter. Specifically, I would like to know:

- (1) In <u>dollar amounts</u>, the aggregate amount of additional (and total) pension contributions that will be required under the Administration's proposal compared with current law, and current law with the corporate bond rate, by year, from 2005 through 2016.
- (2) The anticipated annual operating deficit/surplus of the PBGC for years 2005 2016 under the Administration's proposal versus current law.
- (3) Several hypothetical examples of how companies would be affected by the Administration's proposal (compare current law with the Administration's proposal) for both contributions and premiums that would vary for levels of underfunding, level of company's investment grade, size of plan, mix of older versus younger employees, and mix of current workers versus retired workers.
- (4) An estimate of when the PBGC will run out of cash to pay claims under current law versus the Administration's plan.
- (5) The number of companies with plans insured by the PBGC that would be considered "financially weak" as determined under the Administration's proposal.
- (6) The savings to the PBGC associated with the Administration's plan to perfect liens in bankruptcy.

Page2 Mr. Bradley Belt May 26, 2005

- (7) The savings to the PBGC associated with the Administration's plan to limit contingent liability benefits (such as shutdown benefits).
- (8) The average and median increase (for underfunded plans) in contributions and premiums for companies by year from 2005-2016 for current law versus Administration's proposal.
- (9) A distributional analysis of how many plans would have to increase contributions and by how much.
- (10) An analysis on the number of plans that are expected to freeze or terminate as a result of the Administration's proposal over the next ten years.

I look forward to your timely response.

Sincerety

Senior Democratic Member